

Children's Newspaper

Every Wednesday—Threepence

FOUNDED BY ARTHUR MEE

No. 1715, February 2, 1952

TEN-YEAR-OLD C N READER AS AIR HOSTESS

Her prize was an Atlantic flight

From a Special Correspondent

TEN-YEAR-OLD Barbara Christmas, a reader of the Children's Newspaper who is a scholar at Bletchley Junior School, Buckinghamshire, has just completed a there-and-back flight to America as a junior air hostess of Trans World Airlines. It was an experience packed with thrills, and one which must make her the most envied girl in Britain.

Just imagine it! To be chosen from some thousands of girls in all parts of the country as the winner of a competition, the prize for which was a Transatlantic flight and a tour of New York.

In the competition Barbara Christmas had to draw a flight map for the trip from London via Shannon, Gander, and Boston to New York. ("And geography is not one of my favourite subjects, so I think I was very lucky," Barbara confessed.)

TWO EXCITED BOYS

At the airport awaiting Barbara were her father, Flight-Lieut. Christmas, her mother, and her young brothers, John and Geoffrey, both very excited, and both wondering "what sort of presents we shall get from America."

"Well, I don't know," said Mrs. Christmas, "but the best present for me will be to have Barbara back safely."

Mrs. Christmas told me that both the elder children were very fond of the Children's Newspaper; in fact, at one time two copies were taken each week to prevent them squabbling over it!

Suddenly, down the runway came the great four-engined aircraft, halting on the apron within a few yards of the reception bay. But it was not until all the passengers had disembarked that Barbara made her appearance on the platform of the landing steps, a spruce little figure in her replica of a T.W.A. air hostess's uniform. She was accompanied by Air Hostess Dorothy Beck, who as senior T.W.A. air hostess had just completed her 271st Atlantic crossing—and 1,500,000 flying miles.

When I asked how Barbara had shaped, Miss Beck had nothing but praise for her work. "As a young air hostess she was wonderful, and I cannot think of her taking up any other career."

The Customs examination caused a temporary interruption



Barbara Christmas

FIVE-YEAR-OLD'S THREE LANGUAGES

Those of us who struggle painfully through our daily French or German or Latin lessons can only envy little Hildegard Rosenfeld, of Corby, Northamptonshire; she is only five, but already speaks no fewer than three languages—English, German, and Hungarian.

When Hildegard was six months old her parents had to flee from Hungary, and she crossed the frontier in a rucksack on her mother's back. Now they are settled in Corby. Hildegard speaks English at school there, while her mother, a teacher of languages herself, instructs her in German, her father's only language. In addition Hildegard is learning Hungarian, her native tongue.

EX-FAT BOY'S DIET IS POPULAR

A special diet for fat men has become one of the most popular features in some of the leading American newspapers. Thousands of requests for the chart have been made, more than 87,000 to the Chicago Daily News alone.

The compiler of the chart is a Texan rancher named Elmer Wheeler—now known as the "Ex-Fat Boy." He weighed 234 lbs. before being "shocked" into dieting last year after a Dallas department store salesman had sent him into the "fat men's section" to purchase a new shirt.

Elmer wrote his new diet chart and took off 40 lbs. in 80 days.

BUTTON SOUP

As an emergency ration, the buttons on 2000 Canadian hooded coats supplied to troops in Korea are packed with vitamins. When the buttons are boiled they provide soup.

in the homecoming welcome, and when Barbara returned both Geoffrey and John were clamouring for their presents. Putting aside a monster bag of sweets—"I think I had better keep them until we get home"—she produced from her suitcase two white puppets which, worn as a glove, can be made to perform the cutest antics.

While the boys were occupied

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Looking ahead at Battersea



It is hoped that the Festival Pleasure Gardens in Battersea Park will be opened again at Easter. Here one of the workmen is cleaning some of London's grime from an ornamental globe before it is redecorated.

NESTS FOR PESTS

When birds move out of their nest, clothes moths and other insect pests sometimes move in.

This surprising discovery has been made by experts of the Pest Infestation Laboratory at Slough, who for two years have been making an intensive study of old birds' nests, seeking them in the country and on buildings in London.

The leader of this research, Mr. G. V. B. Herford, Director of the Laboratory, has stated that in one abandoned nest they found 5000 larvae of the clothes moths. Among other undesirable squatters in empty nests were the larvae of the common fly.

VOTING HITCH

Some unusual voting difficulties have been reported in India's first General Election.

At one district in Orissa the staff were getting the boxes ready when a wild elephant appeared outside the polling station, and a little later a couple of tigers arrived. Little wonder that for quite a time none of the electorate turned up to vote!

At another place a tiger appeared just after the polling station was closed. Consequently no one would travel through the forest with the ballot boxes to hand them over to the Recording Officer and the votes could not be counted.

PIGS LIKE BANANAS

Bananas, the experts have discovered, are as good as corn for fattening pigs. The pigs love them—skins and all!

We should not want to forgo our few bananas to help out the bacon ration—and, of course, corn is much cheaper. But in Guatemala they have far more bananas than corn, so they go to the pigs!

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JAPAN'S FRESH START

By the C N Diplomatic Correspondent

JAPAN is in the news again. From the ashes of war a new Japanese State has arisen, fashioned under the anxious eye of those she attacked—to her own ruin. Today the Japanese are taking control of their own destinies again, and the world is watching their first moves in the international field.

Recently Japan announced her wish to recognise the Nationalist group of Chinese, who have set themselves up on the former Japanese island of Formosa as the rightful Government of China. This was a rebuff for the Communist People's Republic on China's mainland.

Friendly countries hold opposing views on whether Japan is thereby starting off her new career on the right foot. Moreover, the Japanese Prime Minister made the announcement before the Peace Treaty for his country had been generally ratified.

BRITISH VIEW

To Britain, indeed, this suggests that Japan may at times prove disconcerting in some of her actions. Yet we were the first of the eleven countries who made the Treaty with her to ratify it.

The British Government's view is that no good purpose is served by ignoring the very solid presence on the Chinese mainland of Dictator Mao Tse-Tung's Communist government.

America, however, which has undertaken the main burden of remodelling Japan, has all along refused to recognise Dictator Mao, and, indeed, has the support of Britain in resisting Communist Chinese aggression anywhere in Asia.

Certainly, the Japanese have no particular confidence in the Chinese "remnant" government in Formosa, so it must be their confidence in American leadership that has inspired their choice.

Moreover, they know that Britain wants to leave them free to settle their own relationships with other countries, for all this was

arranged in a Peace Treaty so generous that it surprised some of the Japanese.

They have promised to live up to this Treaty, particularly in their dealing and trading with other countries. Certainly, the present Government and the Prime Minister, Mr. Yoshida, have shown signs that they mean to keep Japan's new good character untarnished.

Mr. Yoshida played an important part in founding Japan's new constitution with the famous clause renouncing war for ever.

For his Government, their need for a continuance of help from America is bound to influence their decisions. They have declared, moreover, that rather than commit themselves to what they felt was a wrong action they would resign.

At any rate, they have more than once shown the greatest tenacity in standing up for what they consider is right and proper in their own country.

SIGNIFICANT PROTEST

A year or two ago, for instance, when General MacArthur was the virtual ruler in Japan, he decreed the abolition of the laws secluding and sanctifying the Emperor. But so vigorous was the outcry of the Japanese leaders that his decree was ignored. The Japanese insisted that for their country the laws were right, and that the whole people would feel outraged if the dignity of their ruler, guarded down the centuries, were to be lowered in any way.

Now, Japan is being given back the key to her own front-door, so to speak, and it is the earnest hope of her former enemies that she will make the best use of her freedom.

TEN-YEAR-OLD AIR HOSTESS

Continued from page 1

with these I took the opportunity to ask Barbara for her impressions of the trip.

"I enjoyed every minute of it," she said, "but what a rush it was! We hadn't time to go to all the places Daddy had told me about, but I think my biggest thrill was to be taken to the top of the Rockefeller Foundation building. What a view it was!" Then, as an aside, "and, Mummy, do you know, I was on the 24th storey of the hotel in which we stayed?"

On the evening after her arrival in New York, Barbara was taken to a radio studio where a general knowledge quiz programme was in progress. Invited to take part, she was asked which was the larger, a beret or a picture hat. To her query "What is a picture hat?" the quiz-master replied: "It is one of those things that come right out here"—indicating with his hands on either side of his head.

With this encouragement Barbara succeeded in giving the correct answers to this and other questions, and came away with

forty dollars in prize money.

There was just one fly in her ointment—the New York Press photographers. "They just would not leave me alone," she said. "We spent the whole of the first afternoon with them, and had no time to go anywhere when they had finished."

"And what are you going to do with your smart uniform now that your flying days are over for the time being?" I asked.

"I'm keeping it for when I go to my next fancy dress party," was Barbara's prompt reply as she turned away with all the assurance of a fully-fledged air hostess. Then she said, "but I must really go to Mummy and Daddy now; I have such a lot to tell them."

The same might be said of Barbara's return to school in the week which followed. She had such a lot to tell that for the first morning much of the usual curriculum went by the board as her class-mates—and teacher—plied her with questions.

Doubtless she will keep on answering questions for a long time to come.

TELEPHONE WHICH TAKES MESSAGES

From Switzerland comes news of a robot telephone which can be adjusted to announce its number, the name of its absent owner, and its willingness to record automatically any information given to it. When the called person returns, he has merely to push a button and the devoted phone recites what has been said to it during his absence.

This robot telephone has been developed by Swiss engineers using the magnetic sound system. It has been approved by our G.P.O., and probably it will be manufactured in this country, though at present it can only be hired.

Its recording apparatus is contained in a fair-sized box, and it can make records of conversations between two persons. Its use, for

Royal plane crew



The captain and crew of the Argonaut airliner in which Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh travel from London to Nairobi this week on the first stage of their journey to Australia and New Zealand.

several years at least, is likely to be confined to business people.

Speech by electrified wire has certainly advanced since the 1880s, when subscribers had to "turn the crank briskly three times" (a handle attached to the instrument) and wait for the operator to ring the bell. Then they had to take the telephone from its hook, give the number, and hang up again until the operator rang back. In those days the National Telephone Company advised the public that its instruments were of "the latest and most approved Patents of Bell and Edison."

ROUGH TREATMENT

Metal parts of machines which get rough treatment during use are now being subjected to a new technique during their manufacture.

To make them better able to withstand sudden loads and shocks, completed parts are given a "rough house" before being assembled. A typical treatment is to subject them to the hammering of thousands of tiny steel balls, fired at the parts at high speed from all angles. If they survive this treatment they are not likely to break down in later use.

News From Everywhere

BIG WELCOME

Sydney Harbour Bridge is to be decorated in March in honour of the royal visitors. An illuminated crown 90 feet high and 60 feet wide will surmount the word Welcome in letters eight feet high.

Air Training Corps cadets who qualify for their private pilot's licence under the Air Ministry scholarships scheme are to receive a special flying badge.

Shirley Springett, 16, of Hackney, has been awarded the Girl Guides Badge of Fortitude for her courage during an illness which lasted a year.

An Iron Age settlement has been uncovered in a gravel quarry at Gransmoor, near Bridlington. Pieces of pottery, bones, and part of the antler of a red deer have also been unearthed.

NEW COVENTRY

Plans for a settlement of British ex-Servicemen near Sydney, New South Wales, in a township to be called New Coventry, have reached the stage when the Federal and State Governments are to be asked for financial aid.

Miss Kathleen Velacott-Jones, a Radio Australia reporter, is believed to be the first woman to cross by foot the Kokoda Trail in New Guinea. She was one of a party of ten which completed the trek across the island in six days.

About 700,000 foreign visitors came to Britain in 1951 compared with 603,000 in 1950. They spent £100,000,000.

An information service for farmers, giving weather reports, production requirements, and market prospects in selling centres is being set up by the French Ministry of Agriculture.

YOUTH HOSTEL

A new youth hostel—Pont Ar Eden, in the Maudoch Valley—was once the house of the quarry manager of the old Welsh mine which supplied the gold for Princess Elizabeth's wedding-ring.

More than 50,000 Arab refugee children are now attending classes in emergency schools opened in the Middle East by Unesco and the United Nations Relief and Works Agency.

50-YEAR LINK

When the last No. 54 tram from Victoria was driven over Vauxhall Bridge recently one of those on the driving platform was, Mr. W. Gould, who drove the first electric tram across the Thames, on August 5, 1901.

Cement production in 1951 was more than ten million tons—a record. Some 1,974,000 tons were exported.

An 18-foot canoe shaped from a single log of mahogany was recently washed ashore at Oban; it is of a type used by South Sea islanders.

WESLEY MEMORIAL

A memorial garden to Charles Wesley, the hymn-writer and evangelist, is to be opened on March 29 in the old graveyard of Marylebone Parish Church, where he was buried in 1788.

Entries for the fifth National Exhibition of Children's Art, to be held in September at the Royal Institute Galleries, London, must be sent by March 3 to 14a Bream's Buildings, London, E.C.

The R.N.L.I. bronze medal for gallantry has been awarded to Coxswain L. Pennycord, of the Selsey lifeboat, for the rescue of the crew of the Costa Rican motor vessel Swift last November.

British Railways are to provide hanging space for six bicycles in brake vans and luggage compartments of the new passenger coaches.

PHONE CHES

Details of facilities for playing chess by telephone have been issued by the Post Office.

The Nuffield Foundation has given £5000 to supplement the £5000 subscribed in South Africa for the establishment of a Smuts Archive as a preliminary to preparation of a biography of the great statesman.

As a memorial to 25,000 merchant seamen who died in the last war and have no known grave but the sea, the Imperial War Graves Commission is planning a sunken garden in Trinity Square Garden, Tower Hill, London. Approval has been given to a design by Edward Maufe, R.A.

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The Children's Newspaper, February 2, 1952

GETTING DOWN TO EARTH

The very soil of Mother Earth is now being used by British scientists as the main factor in a new process for constructional purposes.

A special liquid cement is mixed with from three to five times its weight of ordinary soil. The resultant mass hardens to a rock-like consistency which can be used in many ways.

One is in building houses; and in this, peat can be used instead of soil with satisfactory results.

The mass can either be made into blocks, which are then placed in position; or the method of construction for rammed-earth houses can be employed, using the cement-earth mixture instead of earth alone. The result is a solid, substantial house.

But the main use will be for building roads across undeveloped country, where the advantage is again that most of the bulk is already there, waiting to be used. The soil is scooped up, mixed with the cement, and then relaid without any further preparation. The new road dries out rock-hard, and will take the weight of any ordinary traffic, including tanks.

It is likely that the process could also be applied on beaches.

OUT OF CENTRE

Although the busy Birmingham-Coventry road passes through Meriden, this Warwickshire village has never lost its old-world charm. The village green is still maintained, and at one corner stands the old wayside cross just as it has stood for 500 years, marking, so the villagers claim, the very centre of England.

They fear, however, that with the ever-increasing volume of heavy traffic passing the spot, their ancient landmark may one day be knocked down. So they are proposing to move it 20 yards farther in on the green, and the Ministry of Works have agreed to the removal.

HOW TO SAVE DOLLARS

Every year the world produces about 25 million tons of paper, but nobody has ever been able to calculate how much of it is wasted. Britain's share of the huge total is restricted, as CN readers know, yet even in this country we throw many tons of it away.

Waste-paper is a valuable raw material, and the place for it is not in the public park, street, or railway station, but in the salvage sack. "Everyone who saves paper for the salvage man is helping the nation to save dollars.

MAGIC EYE OF THE CAMERA

Photographs taken in two colours are being used for aerial survey work and for detecting camouflaged objects hidden among natural vegetation.

The film strip used has two layers of emulsion, one panchromatic like the usual roll film used in a snapshot camera, and the other infra red.

Grass, plants, leaves, and so on, all come out red, as the chlorophyll in natural vegetation affects the infra red emulsion. Unnatural objects, even if of the same apparent colour and texture, come out blue on the panchromatic part of the film.

Thus a photograph of a number of objects covered with camouflaged netting and disposed in a field would show these objects as a number of blue blobs on a red background. The same objects may be quite impossible to detect on an ordinary black and white photograph, or even by direct vision.

Even branches cut from trees provide no effective cover against this magic eye. The red part of the film is affected only by living vegetation, and the detached branches soon begin to show up as blue.

Apart from military purposes, these films are being used for aerial surveys and map-making.

CAT SAVES MAN

The other day a young man named Derrell Shute got lost in the Australian bush. He had wandered for days, with no food or shelter, and had almost given up hope when he found a cat caught in a rabbit trap. He released the animal and it led him to a track, which he followed to a homestead about five miles away.

There, thanks to the cat's instinct for direction, Derrell Shute was cared for before being sent to hospital.

FORECASTS FOR FARMERS

The Air Ministry's 16 weather guide stations received no fewer than 2049 telephone calls from farmers during the harvest months of 1951; at Abingdon alone there were 392 calls in August and September.

Through this service farmers can also get notification by telegram of expected dry spells. It is reported that 81 per cent of these forecasts were accurate.

HEADLIGHTS

British Railways are to supply miners' cap lamps to depot staff examining locomotives and boilers.

The cap lamp leaves both hands free to do the job required and directs the light where it is most needed. Small batteries are carried on the belt and switches enable the wearer to use either a direct beam or diffused lighting.

FAREWELL TO A RAILWAY

One of Britain's oldest railways, the 6½-mile Canterbury-Whitstable line, is to be closed. George Stephenson was the engineer of this railway, which was opened in 1830. Its first locomotive, the Invicta (preserved at Canterbury), was modelled on the Rocket.



Trees saved

To save spoiling the landscape by felling trees, this helicopter was used to run an electric power cable 1280 feet across a wooded valley in the Malvern Hills, Worcester. The experiment was a complete success.

WHERE IS WESLEY'S OLD CLOCK?

A grandfather clock by which little John Wesley may have learned to tell the time in Epworth rectory, his birthplace, is being sought by Mr. Oliver Mason, great-great-grandson of its maker, Timothy Mason of Gainsborough.

Mr. Oliver Mason's father had acquired that clock and later it passed to his brother, on whose death it was sold with his effects. But Mr. Mason believes that the Wesley clock is still ticking away merrily somewhere, quite possibly in Lincolnshire.

Old Timothy Mason made good clocks. At least a dozen of them, still keeping good time, are known to exist.

RELICS OF AN OLD EXPLORER

Three men who recently set out from Kalgoorlie, Western Australia, to look for the breeding grounds of dingoes, or wild dogs, have returned with news of unexpected discoveries.

They found the camp of an earlier explorer named Mason, who went out in 1896 to examine the migration of rabbits from South Australia; and among the relics they brought back were his theodolite and sextant. Mason had been attacked by natives and had abandoned his camp to walk back to civilisation, almost perishing in the attempt.

DIPHTHERIA DEFEAT

The preliminary report on London's health in 1951 by Sir Allen Daley, County Medical Officer of Health, shows that diphtheria has almost been overcome as a killer of children, thanks to the immunisation campaign.

At the outset the campaign met with a certain amount of criticism; immunisation, like vaccination in its early days, was regarded with suspicion by some people. But these figures speak for themselves: before the war there were 7500 cases of diphtheria a year and 250 deaths; in 1951 there were just over 30 cases and only one death.

TEN-SHILLING SERMON

The annual Nanfan sermon due to be preached at Berrow, Worcestershire, next Sunday, owes its origin to a lady of the village who died in 1745.

This good lady, Susannah Nanfan, decreed in her will that "ten shillings shall annually forever be paid to the Minister and his Successors on the 5th day of February, that being the day on which Almighty God vouchsafed me a great Deliverance from a violent and wicked Design of an unnatural enemy."

The nature of this "deliverance" has never been known, but for many years it was thought to have been connected with a duel. The sermon, therefore, was preached against the "sin of duelling." A sermon on these lines would have little point today, except perhaps, in the sense in which a preacher began his oration some years ago—"Nowadays we don't duel with swords, but oh, my friends, how we do duel with words."

CHANNEL ISLANDS' TREES

Thousands of trees are being planted in the Channel Islands this winter to replace those used for fuel during the war, and most of the planting is being done by schoolchildren.

Lectures have been given to the children on the love and care of trees, and each has been allowed to plant one which could be regarded as its own.

It is hoped to revive Arbor Day, which was introduced as a holiday for schools about 50 years ago in memory of Queen Victoria.

BIGGEST AIRCRAFT-CARRIER

A start is being made this year on the world's largest aircraft-carrier, the Forrester, for the United States Navy.

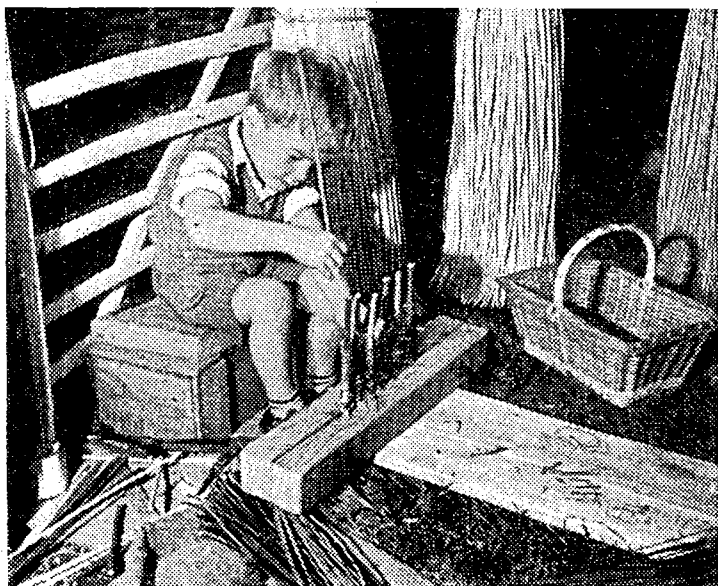
She will be over 1000 feet long with a maximum width on the flight deck of 252 feet. Displacement will be 60,000 tons.

A crew of 3500 officers and men will be required to man this floating airfield, which will have hangar accommodation for 100 or more aircraft. The vessel will be completed in 1955.

Radio Oliver



Wilfred Downing, aged 15, takes the name part in the BBC's serialised version of *Oliver Twist* now being broadcast.



Five-year-old craftsman

George Blackall, of Witney, Oxfordshire, has just started school, but already he can weave a willow basket. He learnt the craft from his father, a skilled basket-maker.

SEASON TICKET FOR 73 YEARS

For the first time in 73 years William S. Meeston has not taken out a railway season ticket, between Inverurie and Aberdeen; ill-health has caused a break in his record.

Mr. Meeston first began to travel daily on the railway in 1879, when he attended Aberdeen Grammar School. Three years later he went to work for a firm of Aberdeen lawyers, and he has been with them ever since.

As Inverurie is 16 miles from Aberdeen it is estimated that with his season tickets Mr. Meeston has travelled a distance equal to 28 times round the world at the Equator.

MILK ROUNDABOUT

Twenty-five thousand quarts of milk a day is a lot to handle on a single farm, especially when this represents the yield from over 1600 cows. It would need a staff of several hundred dairy maids to deal with each cow individually.

This particular farm, in New Jersey, uses an automatic milking machine called a rotolactor, which takes 50 cows at a time. It is like a large roundabout with 50 separate stalls for the animals. It turns at the rate of one revolution every ten minutes and can handle 300 cows an hour.

HANDWRITING TEST
over 1200 prizes
SEE PAGE 7



Riverside Scene

Two schoolboys form a critical "gallery" as a young artist finds inspiration in that fascinating stretch of London's river called King's Reach, between Waterloo Bridge and Blackfriars Bridge.

IN ENGLAND'S WETTEST SPOT

The rainfall last year was well above the average, and we hope that this February will not try to break its fill-dyke record of last year when, in south-east England, it was the wettest February since 1869.

Seathwaite, England's regular wettest place, a tiny hamlet in Lakeland, had more than its usual large share of rain (139 inches), and at the aptly named Sprinkling Tarn, above Seathwaite, 218 inches

fell; there was much more rain here in the wettest month than at Southend in the whole year.

Many of us must wonder what it is like to live where the gentle patter of raindrops is seldom absent. Perhaps the people forget the weather by working hard.

So indeed did Seathwaite's most famous son, "Wonderful" Walker, who was immortalised by Wordsworth.

Wonderful Walker was born at Seathwaite in 1709 and was curate there for 67 years. His income as pastor amounted to only about £16 a year, and he had a family of eight children to educate. He earned extra money, and even saved, by unremitting toil.

MAN OF MANY PARTS

He taught a school in the tiny church, and at the same time worked his spinning wheel. He made a little money by acting as will-maker and by keeping accounts and writing letters for his neighbours. He opened an ale-house in the parsonage—insisting on strict sobriety among his few patrons—and frequently he worked in the fields.

In addition to all this, he filled his church by his preaching, visited the sick, and still found time for studying Divinity, too, reading till late at night in a room with no fire and the rain lashing the window.

Thus he brought up and educated his children well, and when he died in 1802 at the age of 93, he left £2000 and a large amount of home-woven cloth. Certainly he could not be said to have been saving up for a rainy day!

Wordsworth wrote of him as a Gospel Teacher:

Whose good works formed an endless retinue:

A pastor such as Chaucer's verse portrays;

Such as the heaven-taught skill of Herbert drew;

And tender Goldsmith crowned with deathless praise.

We may be sure he never prayed for rain, but stoically endured it when it came in full measure.

Farmer George did his best

The long reign of King George III looms large in our history lessons, and some of us may regard him as a tiresome, stupid, obstinate monarch.

Questioned about him we should almost certainly say that he was the king under whose rule Britain lost the American colonies, and probably add that he became insane.

However, "Farmer George," as his subjects called him, is deserving of our sympathy, declared Mr. I. R. Christie of University College, London, in a lecture.

"Although we may not find his qualities of mind worthy to be admired," said Mr. Christie, "as a man his character must deserve respect."

It seems that George III was a most patriotic person, anxious to do his best for Britain, but not over-blessed with brains—he thought that "Shakespeare was sorry stuff." He went out of his mind, according to Mr. Christie, because in a crisis he became over-conscientious.

MANY VIRTUES

"He set himself a high moral standard and no breath of scandal touched him," said Mr. Christie. "In an age of gross eaters he fed abstemiously, and he made almost a fetish of physical fitness." In his middle age he rode 40 miles before beginning the day's work, and he would get out of his coach to walk 12 miles on the journey from Windsor to London.

Although he had no interest in art, he made generous grants to the Royal Academy after its foundation. He gave support, also, to the famous voyages of discovery in his reign.

His greatest interest, apart from politics, was farming, and he contributed under an assumed name to a work on agriculture.

He may have disliked Shakespeare, but the poet wrote lines applicable to him:

The evil that men do lives after them;

The good is oft interred with their bones.

HE WOULD NOT TAKE NO FOR AN ANSWER

By Eric Gillett, the C N Film Critic

PAUL GALLICO's recent story, *The Small Miracle*, tells of a little orphan boy, Peppino, who lived with his donkey, Violetta, in a stable at Assisi, and earned a living by using the donkey to transport goods.

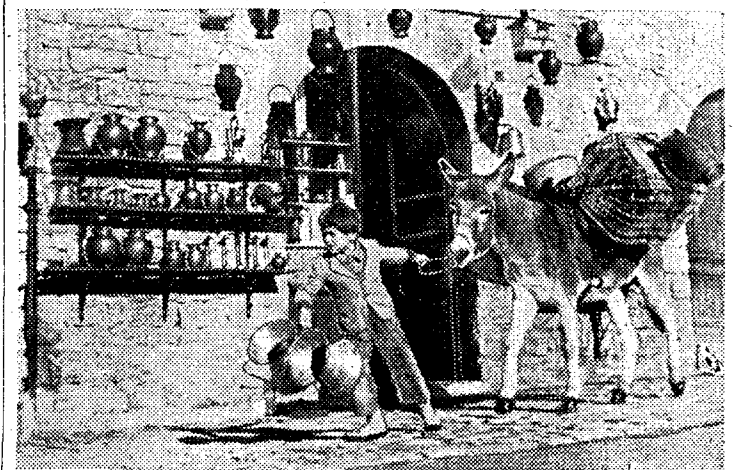
The donkey fell ill and the veterinary surgeon doubted whether it would recover, but Peppino believed that if he could take Violetta to the tomb of St. Francis of Assisi, the friend of all animals, it would get better. He was forbidden to do so, but he would not take No for an answer.

Finally he made his way to Rome and saw the Pope, who gave orders that Peppino was to have his wish. A wall had to be broken

enabled him to depict vividly the determination of a child who feels that he must do everything in his power for the animal which is not only his pet but also his means of livelihood. The Vatican doors are shut against Peppino, and the Swiss Guards drive him away time after time, but he will not be put off, and at last, by an unlikely chance, he achieves his object.

There is nothing mawkish or sentimental in this excellent film. Excitement and laughter keep the story going, and there is an unexpected twist at the close.

TWO TICKETS TO BROADWAY, the new Howard Hughes musical, is similar to many American



A busy day for Peppino and Violetta

down to allow the donkey to be taken to the tomb.

This simple and charming little tale has been made into a film, *Never Take No for an Answer*. It was directed brilliantly by Maurice Cloche and Ralph Smart, who used to great advantage some lovely backgrounds at Assisi and Rome. The film was shot in Italian sunshine and acted by an international cast.

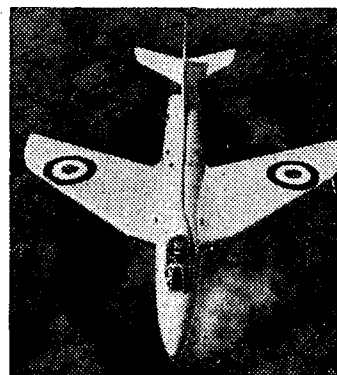
The result is satisfying and impressive. A small Italian boy, Vittorio Manunta, plays Peppino very well indeed. His English is remarkable. The directors have

pictures we have all seen before.

This time the hero (Tony Martin) and the girl (Janet Leigh) build up an act which they are anxious to present in Bob Crosby's television programme. They are handicapped by their theatrical agent (Eddie Bracken), who behaves in such an idiotic manner that it is surprising he was not out of a job in five minutes.

This musical may be thought the mixture as before, but it is done in a very competent, lively manner, and some exceptionally good dancing and singing provide pleasant entertainment.

PLANES FOR THE SPOTTER'S NOTEBOOK



G. Hawker P. 1067

Latest in the classical line of fighters produced by Hawker Aircraft is the graceful P. 1067, known unofficially as the Hunter. Its ancestry dates back to the Sopwith Pups and Camels flown by the Allied aces of the First World War, and the Hurricanes,

Typhoons, and Tempests of the Second World War.

Described as the finest fighter in the world, the P. 1067 is claimed to have a speed in excess of 700 m.p.h. and an amazingly fast climb. Its Rolls-Royce Avon turbojet delivers more than 6000 lbs. of thrust and consumes air at the phenomenal rate of two tons a minute.

Features to look for are the swept-back wings with leading edge "nostril" intakes for the jet; long slender fuselage (which has led to the machine being dubbed a "flying jet-pipe"), and the swept tail surfaces. Another point that assists recognition is the long spine-like fairing between the base of the fin and the cockpit.

In common with other R.A.F. jets, the Hawker P. 1067 is fitted with an ejector-seat for the pilot. Its span is 33 feet 8 inches.

TIBETAN GIRL'S AMBITION

Miss Tenki Sangmu Tenduf La, who is 19, is the first pure-bred Tibetan to visit the United States to study. She is enrolling at the College of Physicians and Surgeons at Columbia University, New York, and looks forward to being the first doctor to practise modern medicine in Tibet.

Miss Tenduf La grew up in Darjeeling, on the Indian side of the Tibet border, and speaks English.

THE WORLD'S STEEL

The United States last year produced 105.2 million tons of steel ingots and castings, almost equaling the total steel production of all other countries combined. This is more than three times the output of U.S.S.R., the world's second biggest producer of steel, the United Kingdom being third. All three countries last year achieved a new record in steel production.

MYSTERY IN THE SECRET SOCIETY!!

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Young Secret Service Agents please note! You can carry hundreds of codes in your pocket—all in one scientifically designed instrument. A few turns of the dial of the new MULTI-CODER enables you to put messages into codes which are unreadable except by your own men in the secret. The MULTI-CODER works both ways—with the same dial-action you speedily decode secret Multi-coded messages from your friends. **Not a cheap toy—a beautifully made instrument in a high-grade plastic. PRICE 1/6 post. & pkg. absolutely unique.**

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Walters' "Palm" Toffee

THE PERFECTION OF CONFECTIONS

In the Friendly City of the Golden West

SHEILA GODFREY, the young English journalist who has been describing for C N readers her bus journey across the United States, reached her Farthest West when she arrived at San Francisco. Here she records her impressions of the great Californian city on the Pacific coast.

AFTER the heat of Los Angeles, San Francisco greeted me with fog and a cool wind. But even in the grey light of morning, after a sleepless bus ride of 13 hours, I could feel at once that this was a city different in character from the others I had visited.

The fog was soft and billowy, and cleaner than London's "particulars." It hung round little shops and flower stalls that might have been Paris, and studio cottages and alley gardens that might have been Hampstead. It swathed the steep winding hills, and hid the little cable cars as they strained to reach the top.

And it gave to the city a dramatic touch which somehow seemed thoroughly in keeping with its history: Drake sailing past in his Golden Hind in 1579; Spanish missionaries baptising the Indians in 1776; the fantastic gold rush of 1849, and the great earthquake and fire of 1906.

SAN FRANCISCO is a constant delight to strangers from abroad, no matter whence they come, for here there is always something, or someone, to remind them of home. The city's restaurants cater for every taste, and there are residential quarters for practically every nationality. One-fifth of the population is foreign-born.

Largest and most picturesque of the overseas settlements is Chinatown. Apart from Singapore, it is

the most extensive Chinese community outside China.

Here, on festival days, gay lanterns hang across the narrow streets. Chinese movies are shown in the cinemas, and there are the traditional joss-houses or native temples for Buddha and ancestor-worship.

The little shops, with neon signs in Chinese characters, sell embroidered jackets and bright kimonos, delicate watercolours and paintings on silk, rice bowls and chopsticks, and strange fruits and vegetables.

Today Chinatown is one of San Francisco's principal tourist attractions. But there are other sights to claim attention—Alcatraz Island, known to millions of film-goers as The Rock, a prison for desperate criminals; the famous Golden Gate and Oakland Bay bridges; and Fisherman's Wharf, with its smacks and trawlers and harbour restaurants, where you can eat swordfish and octopus and crabs cooked in steaming cauldrons on the pavement outside.

FOR nature-lovers there are pelicans and golden brown seals off-shore, and inland, eucalyptus trees and humming birds that hover among the fuchsias like giant dragonflies. And always there is good music and entertainment, with constantly changing art collections, and shows and exhibitions of all kinds.

One of these during my stay was an electrical exposition, which for ingenuity and inventiveness was typical. Among the exhibits were filament lamps which could give either blue or pink light; garage doors which could be opened by high frequency while the car was 100 yards or so away; and a cooker which could be plugged into a car ("Ideal for the travel-



A corner of San Francisco's Chinatown



The busy Fisherman's Wharf

ling salesman," declared the manufacturers).

Shopping is fun in San Francisco, for here you can find everything from Doulton china and Scottish plaids to Italian raffia-work and East Indian spices. But even with less exotic purchases there are snags for the unwary foreigner.

In one large store I asked for a twin set, and was directed to the nursery department. Suspenders, it seems, are what we know as braces, and braces are things to keep your teeth straight. Americans who go about in "pants and vest" are really respectably clothed in outer garments.

SALES are nearly always in progress at some store or another, and each weekend housewives scan the advertisements for "specials"—groceries offered at reduced rates. Even branded goods sell for varying prices.

Most of the food stores are self-service. You take a steel basket on wheels and help yourself from lengthy, well-packed shelves, weighing out your own green-grocery, and taking your own milk and butter from the refrigerators.

One store has a meat department so large that there are separate counters for the different cuts.

The shopkeeper greets you with "Hello, and how are you?" as though he has known you all his life, and packs your goods into a "sack," or paper bag. Invariably he asks "Cash or charge?" as he tots up the bill.

There is a national acceptance of deferred payment, and a high proportion of America's domestic business seems to be conducted on this system.

"Send at first positively no money," cry the radio advertisers. "Then have 18 months or more to pay."

Even dentists in San Francisco advertise "gas and credit given." One of them went so far as to claim that his treatment was pain-

less also. When legal authorities objected, he merely made the word his first name, and now continues to advertise within the law, on a sign that reads: Painless Parker—Dentist—Credit.

SAN FRANCISCO is a city with a lively concern for foreign affairs, perhaps because of its strategic position between west and east, perhaps because of its cosmopolitan population. Students who come from other lands to its colleges, and to the nearby universities of Stanford and California, find that a warm welcome awaits them and that there is a genuine interest in their views.

David Wong, a political science student, told me that his home was in Hong Kong. I wanted to ask him about the Orient, but when he heard that I came from England he got in first.

"I wish you would tell me how Arsenal are getting on," he said.

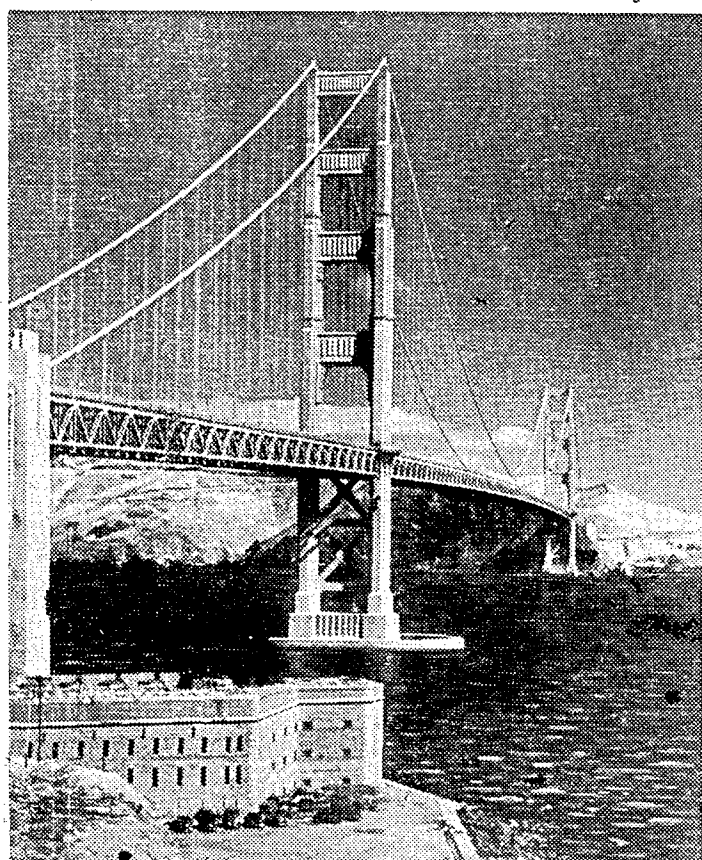
"I never see anything about them in the papers here."

But San Franciscans are deeply aware of the wider international issues, for it was here that the Charter of the United Nations was drafted in 1945, and here, too, only a few months ago, that the Japanese Peace Treaty was signed.

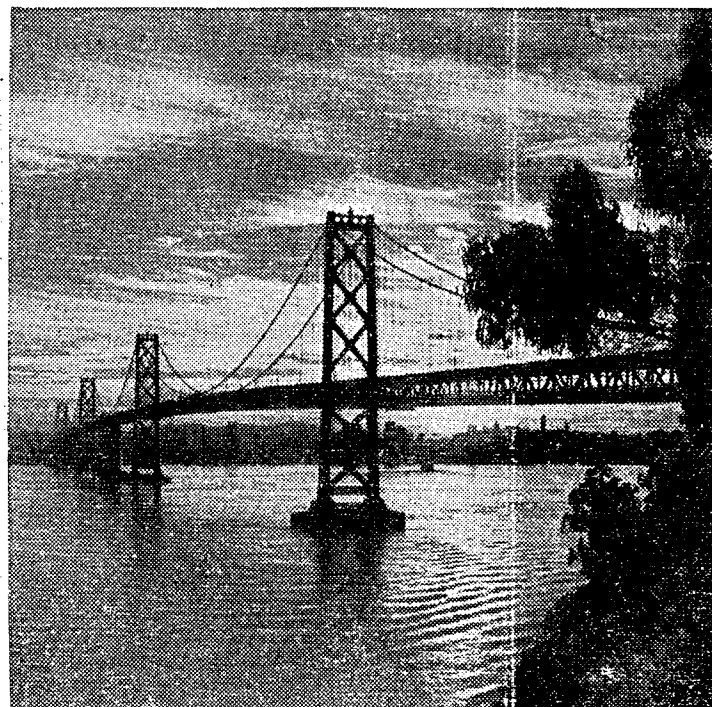
The citizens of San Francisco are proud of the role that their community has been able to play in promoting harmony among nations. And individually they make their contribution, too.

For six weeks I was a guest in a home to which I had really little introduction. When I protested that this was over-generosity my hostess shook her head.

"It's not so much for you personally—it's an idea I have," she said. "Doing something to enable a young person to see and know more of other people may perhaps help a little towards better world understanding."



The Golden Gate suspension bridge



A section of the Oakland Bay bridge

Children's Newspaper

John Carpenter House
Whitefriars · London · EC4

FEBRUARY 2, 1952

BON VOYAGE

ANOTHER momentous Royal journey begins this week with the departure of Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh by plane for Nairobi. Everyone in the British Commonwealth wishes them a heartfelt Bon Voyage.

This is the first stage of a tour which will take them many thousands of miles from home, for from East Africa they will continue their journey by boat to Ceylon, and thence travel to the great southern dominions; but although they will be far from home, everywhere they go they will find themselves among friends.

THIS young couple are true ambassadors, endowed with great personal grace and charm. They are fine representatives of the youthful spirit of the Old Country. Above all they are members of a beloved Royal Family; of a family as dear to the hearts of Australians and New Zealanders as indeed they are to all the peoples of the British Commonwealth.

THE Royal travellers depart with the united good wishes of us all. We can be quite sure that throughout their tour they will be strengthening the ties which bind the British Commonwealth of Nations. May they return safely, enriched by their experiences!

Under the Editor's Table

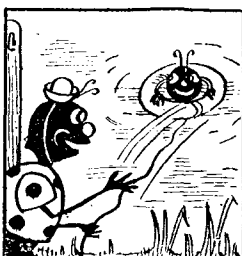
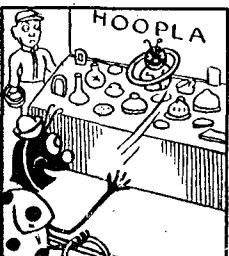
Go over your rose-beds, says a gardening expert. Most people walk round them.

A firm advertises watches that carry a 12-month guarantee. In their hands?

A talk on the Third Programme was said to be illuminating. Should have been on the Light Programme.

Someone says table tennis is played out. But it never is.

BILLY BEETLE



The Editor's Table

MITE'S MITE

HAVING been told that many people in India were hungry, six-year-old Wendy Marks, of Connecticut, wrote a letter which began "Dear People of India." With her letter was a dollar which, she explained, she had earned from baby-sitting and other tasks.

Her letter eventually found its way to Mr. Nehru, Prime Minister of India. Now Wendy has received a personal letter from him, thanking her for her gift to the people of India, and saying how much it was appreciated.

Well done, Wendy! And congratulations on finding, while still so young, that the best of all ways of using money is to give it away to the needy.

Royal home on the Equator

During their tour Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh will spend a few days at this hunting lodge on the wooded slopes of Mount Kenya. The lodge, which lies almost on the Equator, was a wedding present to the Royal couple from the people of Nairobi. The key is being presented to them this week.



Where there's a wheel there's a way

This pleasing little story of youthful resource comes to us from an English lady now living in Trinidad.

A WEST Indian schoolboy, riding home on his bicycle, stopped to buy some oranges. As he was wearing no coat in the hot tropical sunshine, he had no pockets; so he pushed the fruit between the spokes of his front wheel and then rode on, with the oranges revolving merrily as he went. Where there's a wheel, there's a way!

John and Ann are most popular

MR. J. W. LEAVER's annual list of the most popular names for boys and girls, compiled from birth announcements in The Times, shows that John and Ann (or Anne) were still at the top of the list last year, just as they were in 1950 and 1949.

David was second again among the boys and next came Charles, Richard, Peter, Michael, Christopher, James, Robert, Anthony. Robert made a comeback, but Andrew dropped out.

After Ann, the most favoured name for girls was Mary, and then Jane, Elizabeth, Margaret, Susan, Caroline, Sarah, Clare, and Patricia, the last two having displaced Jennifer and Frances.

CANDLEMAS DAY

FEBRUARY 2 is Candlemas Day, the Feast of the Purification of the Virgin, celebrating Mary's visit to the Temple to present the Infant Jesus to God.

It was on that occasion that the aged Simeon prophesied that Jesus would be "a light to lighten the Gentiles."

It is believed that this festival replaced an ancient Roman festival held in honour of the god Febris about this time.

One charming Candlemas custom is still observed at Blidworth in Nottinghamshire. An old wooden cradle draped with white linen and flowers is placed near the altar. At its head candles are lighted, and in it a robed infant, the youngest baby boy in the parish, is laid and gently rocked by the priest. Ever since the 12th century this service has been held there.

As the snowdrop blossoms at this time, it is looked upon as a symbol of purity and is, indeed, known as the Purification Flower. Its other appropriate names are Mary's Tapers and Candlemas Bells.

Thirty Years Ago

THE greatest home industry is the making of homes. Houses cannot be imported or exported; they have to be built where they are wanted. . . . Unfortunately our building trades are not expanding as they ought to. We have far fewer men making houses than we had before the war. Yet we badly need more houses for our people. It is a great social evil that we lack the good homes we need, for better homes mean better lives. . . . These are very serious facts and our Government should deal with them. The present dearth of building is a grave public danger.

From the Children's Newspaper, February 4, 1922

JUST AN IDEA

As Oliver Wendell Holmes wrote: "Science is a first-rate piece of furniture for a man's upper-chamber, if he has commonsense on the ground floor."

CAPTAIN'S WIFE

THE Mayor and Corporation of the Borough of Daventry recently invited a distinguished citizen to meet them in the Mayor's Parlour; none other than Mr. F. R. Brown, the England cricket captain.

A pair of sauce boats was presented to Mr. Brown as a token of tribute for his outstanding leadership of the England team in Australia, and then he made his speech of thanks.

"It was my wife's choice," he said. "After all, she permitted me to go on the trip and I felt I should like her to have the sauce boats in appreciation of the great help and encouragement she has always given me."

It was a generous and characteristic gesture on the part of a true sportsman!

To the snowdrop

Pretty firstling of the year,
Herald of the host of flowers,
Hast thou left thy cavern drear,
In the hope of summer hours?
Back unto the earthen bowers,
Back to the warm world below,
Till the strength of suns and showers
Quell the now relentless snow.

Barry Cornwall

TRUE CHARITY

True charity not only covers a multitude of sins, but includes a multitude of virtues, such as forgiveness, liberal construction, gentleness, and mercy to the faults of others, and the remembrance of our own imperfections and advantages.

Charles Dickens

The Children's Newspaper, February 2, 1952

THINGS SAID

HISTORY unfolds itself by strange and unpredictable paths. We have little control over the future, and none at all over the past.

Mr. Churchill

I CAN'T get away from the Abominable Snowman. He is mentioned at every music-hall show I see, every variety programme I listen to, and by all the people I meet.

Eric Shipton, leader of the Everest reconnaissance expedition

THE best way to learn how to become a good artist is to imitate. All the good artists did that from the early Egyptians until the 19th century.

Sir Kenneth Clark

THE volume of favourable comment received by the Travel Association from foreign visitors on the quality of their welcome would support the view that the friendliness of the people is one of our most valuable tourist assets.

Deputy chairman, British Travel Association

WHEN I married I could not cook, but my husband was a Rover Scout and he taught me.

Writer in The Scout Leader, Ottawa

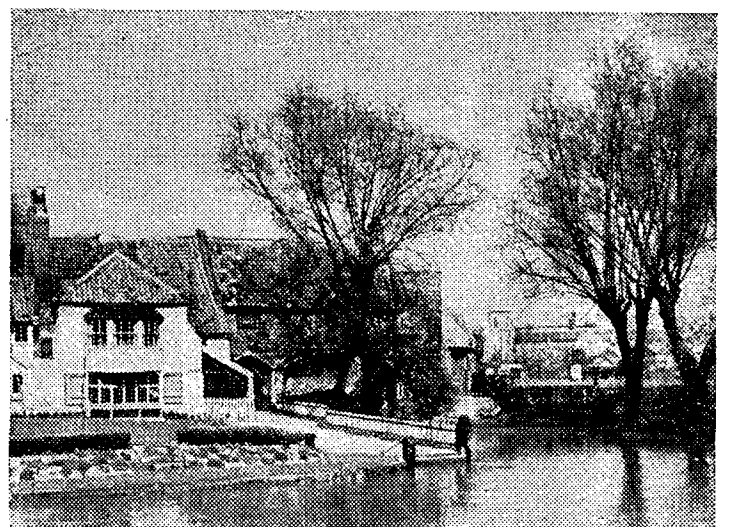
IN THE COUNTRY

THOUGH winter still lingers, February brings a foretaste of the gladsome spring. How spruce and tidy the fields now appear to the wayfarer as he gazes over a stretch of well-kept farmland, with neatly-trimmed hedges, and clean-cut lines of ditches, cleared of last year's debris.

The tawny-brown squares of new-ploughed soil appear as fresh as a newly-brushed carpet, and pencilled lines of emerald green on the slope of the nearby hill, where the young wheat is making headway, form a pattern that must delight the farmer's eyes.

The verges of the winding lane have also been tidied up. All is spick and span. In the fields the long, low mounds of potatoes and other root crops, protected by a covering of straw and earth, are neatly shaped, nestling in a straight line behind the hedge-row.

The birds are just as spruce and gay in their new spring plumage.



OUR HOMELAND

Pull's Ferry—a charming corner of old Norwich

The Children's Newspaper, February 2, 1952

PELICANS ARE CROWDED OUT

By Craven Hill, C N Correspondent at London Zoo

LONDON Zoo has the greatest number of pelicans in the Gardens since the Society first opened for business in 1828. To the 17 birds already in residence, four have now been added.

The latest arrivals, all Eastern pelicans, have arrived by air from Pakistan. They are being given to St. James's Park by the Emir of Bahawalpur.

The Zoo is now holding for that park no fewer than eleven pelicans, the others, sent recently, being four Brown pelicans from Texas, a pair of White pelicans from Louisiana, and a Pink-backed pelican from Kenya.

"We are hard pressed to give even temporary accommodation to all these pelicans," Mr. G. S. Cansdale, the superintendent, told me, "and we are thinking of asking one or two other British menageries to help us out. Some of the provincial zoos may be able to take a few of the birds off our hands."

"To fit the rest of the birds in here and give them warm quarters

we may have to arrange a sort of 'general post' in the Gardens.

"One possible solution now under consideration is to put a couple of our own acclimatised pelicans temporarily in the sea-lions' pond. Sea-lions and pelicans do not ordinarily meet in Nature's scheme of things, but we do not see why the experiment should not be made under supervision."

Incidentally, housing 21 pelicans at once is presenting the Zoo with a big fish bill. A pelican at this season eats 12 to 20 whiting a day!

The birds being held for St. James's Park will remain at the Zoo until spring. They will then move in to their new quarters there, and, it is hoped, will stay there permanently.

Pelicans get acclimatised fairly quickly, and once they have spent a summer outdoors it should be safe to leave them for the ensuing winter also.

Pelicans have been kept in St. James's Park continuously since

the reign of Charles II until last year, when the two remaining specimens there died.

EARLY-MORNING visitors at the Zoo now meet one of the riding elephants plodding across the grounds, gingerly carrying in her trunk a pail of vegetables.

The animal is Rusty, the ten-year-old elephant received last autumn from Ceylon, and the pail is her own "shopping basket."

Rusty learnt this trick recently when being taken out for exercise by her keeper, "Buck" Jones. Pausing for a breather near the stores yard, Keeper Jones saw the storekeeper holding up Rusty's food pail, so he told the elephant to go across and get it.

Rusty obeyed with alacrity, and so enjoyed her little jaunt that she insisted on carrying the pail all the way back to her house on the other side of the grounds. Now she "shops" for herself in this way daily!

"The temptation to set the pail

down en route and sample the contents was strong at first, naturally," Keeper Jones told me. "But she now manages to resist until we get home, when, of course, I always reward her with a titbit."

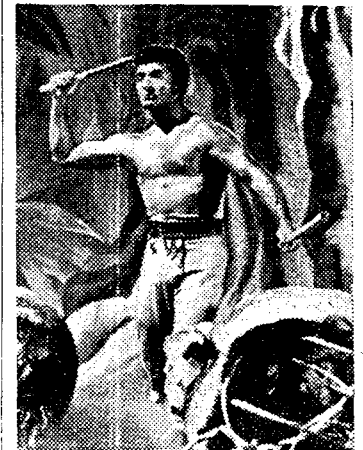
CENTRAL HEATING of the Gardens, in operation this winter for the first time, is having one unexpected result. It has accentuated the rat menace. Rats hate the cold, and the chillier nights are driving them into the houses.

Now the Zoo is employing a firm of rat-catchers, who have lately accounted for scores.

These men do not work unaided. They have some valuable allies among the exhibits, particularly among birds. Storks at the ostrich house occasionally "spear" a rat. Some of the larger birds of prey also lend a hand—or rather, a beak!

The other day an ally cropped up in an unexpected quarter, the Great Aviary. Cornered by the human rat-catchers, a rat jumped into the aviary and made a bee-line for the other side. But it never got there. An Australian Silver gull promptly attacked it.

His figure is his fortune



Arthur Mason (pictured here in a jungle setting) is a 21-year-old London actor whose muscles have so far proved his fortune. After acting here in a film version of the famous comedy, Charley's Aunt, which is to be released later this year, he has left for Hollywood to become a film pirate.

But he travelled to the U.S. in greater comfort than he did on his first visit, for that was as a stowaway in the shaft tunnel of a ship.

Arthur's life of adventure began when he was 16. He decided to look up some relations in America and chose a decidedly difficult method of doing so. He hid in a freighter at London docks, near his native Stepney. For 18 days (he told a C N correspondent) he lived on chocolates and sweets and water he had taken with him.

GAVE HIMSELF UP

At New York he slipped ashore unobserved, but after visiting his aunt in Brooklyn he did the right thing and gave himself up to the immigration authorities. He was kept on Ellis Island for a month, but was indulgently treated by the officials.

Then it was arranged that he should cross the Atlantic again in the same freighter, working his passage for a shilling a month!

The ship went to Bari in Italy, and there, finding she was bound for the Far East, Arthur swam ashore and began a long hitch-hike to England. Next he joined the Army, was sent to Germany, and became a champion light-heavy-weight boxer.

IN A LONDON SHOW

Arthur is a young man with very well-developed muscles, and after he had left the Army his Hercules-like figure procured him an invitation to play the part of a tough sailor in the show, Mr. Roberts, at the London Coliseum. Next he went to Elstree for the Charley's Aunt film (Here Comes Charlie), and then he got his Hollywood chance.

Last year Arthur Mason used his strength to stop a runaway horse in East London, and recently he climbed a 50-foot pipe on the side of a factory and rescued a stranded cat. Adventure seems to be waiting for him round every corner.

The C N National Handwriting Test

Awards
Value
£500



THE BEE SAVES
FOR THE FUTURE



THE SQUIRREL—
HE SAVES TOO

1952



Over
1200
Prizes

THE fourth CHILDREN'S NEWSPAPER annual Handwriting Test is now open, and applications for entry forms are already pouring in from all over the country.

The theme this year is National Savings, the words to be written in the Test passage consisting of a simple paragraph expressing the purpose and benefits of the National Savings Campaign. Each entrant has simply to copy the passage (given on the Entry Form) in the style of handwriting taught at his or her school.

The competition is open to all full-time pupils of schools and colleges in Great Britain, Northern Ireland, the Channel Islands, and Eire who are under 17, and Entry Forms are for issue only through schools. Prizes totalling £500 in value will be awarded for the best entries.

To give all an equal opportunity, the Test is divided into THREE AGE GROUPS, with prizes in each for both pupils and schools. You can thus win for yourself and for your school! There will be 1200 other Prizes. Here is the full prize list:

GROUP A (for Pupils under 9)		
FIRST PRIZES—		
To the School	£25	
Prize-winning Pupil ..	£5	
SECOND PRIZES—		
To the School	£10	
To the Pupil	£3	
THIRD PRIZES—		
To the School	£5	
To the Pupil	£2	

GROUP B (Pupils of 9 to under 13)		
FIRST PRIZES—		
To the School	£25	
Prize-winning Pupil ..	£5	
SECOND PRIZES—		
To the School	£10	
To the Pupil	£3	
THIRD PRIZES—		
To the School	£5	
To the Pupil	£2	

GROUP C (Pupils of 13 to under 17)		
FIRST PRIZES—		
To the School	£25	
Prize-winning Pupil ..	£5	
SECOND PRIZES—		
To the School	£10	
To the Pupil	£3	
THIRD PRIZES—		
To the School	£5	
To the Pupil	£2	

200 Gold-Nibbed Fountain-Pens each engraved with the winner's name. 1000 Prizes of Savings Stamps to the value of 5s.

ALSO 10,000 AWARDS OF MERIT

A Certificate of Merit will be awarded to the pupil who sends the best entry from each school not represented in the above prize list

IF you would like to win a prize for yourself as well as one for your school, show this announcement to your teacher and (unless the school has already applied) ask him or her kindly to complete the coupon here and send it in. Please note that entries in this competition must be on the proper Entry Form which is issued free to schools.

The test may be done when in school or at home, as the teacher may decide, and the entry is to be signed by the teacher on completion. There is NO entry fee—but when sent in, every pupil's attempt must have affixed to it one of the tokens (marked "C N Writing Test 1952") now appearing in every copy of C N. You will find one at the foot of the back page of this issue.

Remember, there is a special age group for you. What is more, you are allowed to use the kind of writing—script, joined script, or cursive—taught at your own school.

The Closing Date for entries is

Monday, March 31. These, when completed, are to be sent in accordance with the competition rules printed on the Entry Form. (N.B.—It is regretted that this test cannot be extended to schools other than those in Great Britain, Northern Ireland, the Channel Islands, and Eire.)

To CHILDREN'S NEWSPAPER, Competition Dept., C N 2
5 Carmelite Street, London, E C 4 (Comp).

Please send me (post free).....copies of the
C N NATIONAL HANDWRITING TEST of 1952 Entry Forms
for my pupils.

PRINCIPAL/FORM
MASTER or MISTRESS

School

School Address

This coupon may be posted under 1d. Stamp if sent unsealed

NOTE TO TEACHERS.

The Entry Form contains the Test Passage, space for the pupil's effort, and full rules and particulars. It is for issue only in answer to school applications. Teachers are asked to be good enough to assess their requirements as closely as possible, and fill in the total of forms needed on this application coupon, together with the other particulars. The supply will then be sent post free, to be handed out at school. (If desired a specimen entry form will be sent before the full request is made.) Last date for application for these forms is February 29.

8 RESCUING THE REGALIA

Few people know that the Scottish Regalia, traditionally known as the Honours of Scotland, were once smuggled to safety under the very noses of Cromwell's soldiers. It is an exciting story, and it is in a booklet on the Scottish Regalia just published by H.M. Stationery Office, Edinburgh.

In the year 1651, when the all-conquering Cromwell was carrying fire and sword into the Scottish Lowlands, the Regalia were removed for safety to the castle of Dunnottar, on the Kincardineshire coast. But shortly afterwards the castle was besieged by Cromwellian troops and it seemed inevitable that the Regalia would after all fall into the hands of the enemy.

This disaster was averted by two brave women. Mrs. Granger, wife of the minister of the neighbouring parish of Kinneff, asked the English commander of the besieging forces if she could visit the Governor's wife in the castle, and her request was granted.

CONCEALED TREASURE

When she left Dunnottar after the visit, the English commander gallantly stepped forward and assisted Mrs. Granger to mount her horse. He little knew that the Scottish Crown was under her cloak, and that her maid carried the Sword and Sceptre hidden in bundles of flax.

That night the Honours were concealed at the bottom of a bed in the manse, and later they were buried in Kinneff Church. When Cromwell's troops eventually entered the castle they were bitterly disappointed to find that the Regalia had disappeared.

All their efforts to discover the Honours proved unavailing; and for nine years they lay hidden in the church. Then they were restored to Charles II, and returned to Edinburgh Castle.

George Fox, son of a weaver, was brought up as a puritan. At 19 he refused to make merry at a fair, and a day later felt a divine call.



Pioneers 68. GEORGE FOX, who founded the Quakers

He roamed the country, Bible in hand, and began to preach. As he questioned the teachings of the Church he was often sent to prison.



Fox carried his message to Holland and the American colonies. At last, two years before he died, the Toleration Act of 1689 gave freedom of worship to all religious bodies.



Undaunted, he made many converts who became known as The Friends of Truth. They too were persecuted and their meeting-houses destroyed.

HE INVENTED A SINGLE-LINE RAILWAY

The inventor Louis Brennan, who was born on January 28 just 100 years ago, had much of that impracticability which people generally attribute to "back-room boys"; and he never gave up his vision of a train which could run on a single rail. But for all that he was a brilliant engineer.

Louis was born at Castlebar, in County Mayo, Ireland, and was taken to Australia while still a boy. To tinker with gadgets, watches, tops, tools—anything mechanical, in fact—was his passion, and when he left school he took up watch-making.

When he was 25 Louis hit upon the idea of a dirigible torpedo, and for years he worked till late at night on the project.

At last, aided by a member of the staff of Melbourne University, he completed his plans. Naval officers serving on the Australian station sent the Admiralty a highly favourable report on the torpedo and Brennan was invited officially to England.

The dirigible torpedo was fish-shaped, with fins and horizontal and vertical rudders. Two screws revolved in opposite directions, and it was controlled by two wires running over drums back to a high-

speed steam engine on the shore. Steering was carried out by varying the rate of the drum-winding. Its main purpose was the defence of creeks and harbours.

In 1887 the British Government paid Brennan nearly £120,000 for the exclusive rights of his invention, built a torpedo factory at Gillingham, and appointed him its superintendent. Ten years later he became consulting engineer.

During the First World War Brennan served in the Ministry of Munitions inventions department, and there helped to develop a helicopter.

HIS PET IDEA

But all these years the untiring scientist had been thinking over his pet idea—a mono-rail transport system. He really believed that one day all trains would run on one rail only, or even on a tightly-stretched cable.

Most of his experiments were carried out at his Gillingham home. Wire cables spanned his lawn in astonishing fashion, and passers-by would see the model car swishing to and fro, generally carrying Brennan's little daughter.

In 1909 he gave a public trial. The car was 40 feet long, 10 feet wide, and 13 feet high. Its wheel-

base was 20 feet, and it weighed 20 tons! The biggest problem had been to keep the car upright; at first, it would not go backwards without toppling over. But Brennan solved this by fitting two gyroscopes running in opposite directions.

Unfortunately, on the vital day, one of the generators broke down, and the car reached a speed of only seven miles per hour, instead of 35 as planned. Nevertheless, it carried 40 persons over the cables.

Eventually the idea proved impracticable. For instance, the gyroscopes each had a wheel weighing three-quarters of a ton, revolving 3000 times per minute. They were fitted with two petrol engines driving electrical generators. The cost of equipping such a car on a public highway was excessive. Brennan had seriously envisaged a car 150 feet long, travelling at twice the speed of ordinary trains.

His mono-rail model was placed in the Science Museum, South Kensington. Nevertheless, it was widely regarded as one of the most remarkable inventions of the era. Brennan died in 1932—an engineering genius whose most ambitious scheme came to naught.

MULBERRY PIE FOR THE LORD MAYOR

The descendant of a famous mulberry bush was recently planted in the Port of London Authority's garden in the City, and it is hoped that in ten years' time it may produce fruit for the traditional mulberry pie at the Lord Mayor's banquet.

The original mulberry bush, in the garden of the Girdlers' Company Hall, was destroyed by incendiary bombs in the war. Happily, a sprig from this tree has been reared at Kew Gardens, and it was a cutting from the Kew bush that was recently planted by the Chairman of the P.L.A.

A basketful of mulberries used to be sent from their tree by the Girdlers' Company to the Mansion House for the Lord Mayor, a warden of the company told the C.N., but he was not sure whether they always reached his table. Doubt was also expressed by the Remembrancer of the City of London, who has no recollection of the mulberry pie.

Young men now working in the City should be extra vigilant as they go round the new mulberry bush "on a cold and frosty morning," for on its growth and fruitfulness depend the mulberry pies which will be set before them when they attend Lord Mayors' banquets as members of the City Corporation.

MOTORING MILLIONS

A new survey of the motor industry in the United States gives some idea of the rapid progress made in the last 30 years. In 1950 there were 49 million cars registered—a car for every four people, compared with six million in 1919.

A total of 771 million miles a day is covered by all the passenger cars in the United States. This is not surprising, for 27,500,000 persons use a passenger car every day in earning their living.

THE FOUR FEATHERS—PICTURE-VERSION OF A. E. W. MASON'S GRAND STORY (2)

Harry Feversham was a young Army officer, who was obsessed with the fear of being afraid. He dreaded that he might lose his nerve in battle and disgrace himself and his family. One evening, when he was entertaining three

brother officers at his London flat, a telegram arrived telling him that his regiment was going to fight in Egypt. Overcome by his fear of fear, he threw the telegram into the fire without telling the others the news. He knew

they would not hear of the move for some days. He could resign his commission at once, and they would never know his true reason. He hoped they would think he had left the Army because his fiancée wanted him to.



As they drove home, Captain Trench told Willoughby that he was curious about that telegram. Before it had burnt up, he had seen the words, "tell Trench." But Harry had said nothing. Trench had an idea that Castleton, another officer, had sent it, but Castleton was going to Scotland that evening. Trench suggested that he and Willoughby might just catch him before he left his London home.

Harry resigned his commission and, some days later, left London to visit his fiancée in Ireland. Ethne knew he had left the Army, and thought it was on her account. "I saw this morning that your regiment was ordered to Egypt," she said. "Of course, you could not know there was any possibility of their going, but I can well understand it is very hard for you to be left behind. I blame myself."

During a dance at Ethne's house, she and Harry went out into the hall where the post had come. There was a little box for Harry. He opened it and three white feathers fluttered out. With them were three cards with the names of Trench, Castleton, and Willoughby. He realised they had discovered the true reason for his leaving the Army, and had chosen this way of privately showing their contempt for him.

Harry told her everything. How all his life he had been afraid he might play the coward, and how his father could never have understood this. Ethne was grief-stricken. "I am rather like your father," she said at last, "I don't understand." She threw her engagement ring on the table, and beside it put a fourth white feather from her fan. Without saying a word, Harry carefully put them all in his pocket.

What can Harry do to win back his reputation? See next week's instalment

THE BUCKINGHAMS AT RAVENSWYKE

Grand new serial
by Malcolm
Saville

The story so far

Alex Renislau, the famous composer, has moved with his wife and 15-year-old son Charles to a house called Ravenswyke, on the Yorkshire moors. He has made a friend of a Mr. John Marsdon, who is in control of the mysterious Eagle Hall, believed to be a secret laboratory, a few miles away. The night before Charles's friends, Juliet and Simon Buckingham, are due at Ravenswyke for a holiday, Mr. Marsdon, who has come to dinner, learns that one of his most able scientists has disappeared from the Hall. He leaves immediately.

3. Mystery in Whitby

MR. RENISLAU was in a wonderfully good mood the following morning and seemed more cheerful than Charles could remember. The sun was already hot when they were ready to set off for Whitby to meet the Buckinghams, and Mrs. Renislau came down the garden with them.

"You'd better come back as soon as you've met them. I'll have tea ready."

"If you don't mind, Mother," Charles said, "I'd rather like to give them an idea of Whitby, and we thought it would be fun to take them out to tea."

Mr. Renislau nodded, and then smiled his thanks as his wife stooped over the little rock garden by the gate, picked three miniature scarlet roses, and put them in his buttonhole.

"You'll have to look smart for Julie, darling," she said.

She stood at the gate waving, and many times during the next few days Charles was to remember her smile as he walked off with his father down the lane.

ALTHOUGH he had not often made the journey to Whitby, Charles was already fascinated by the road that wound across the moors like a white ribbon dropped on a purple carpet; and it was not long before their bus crossed a bridge over the valley of the lovely Esk and climbed another hill from the top of which they saw, on the skyline, high on the cliff, the beautiful ruins of Whitby's famous abbey.

"I like this place, Dad," Charles said. "Let's explore it together properly before the others come, and then I can really show them round as if I knew something about the place."

Whitby is built on two steep hills divided by the River Esk as it runs out through the harbour to the sea. It is a town of clustered red roofs, mewing seagulls, and the smell of fish, and from here generations of sailors have manned Whitby-built ships which have sailed to all parts of the world.

Charles and his father stood for a few minutes watching the baskets of silver, slippery fish being hauled from the holds of the fishing cobbles to be emptied in a heap on the quay. Mr. Renislau was in a particularly carefree mood, but Charles was getting hungry when

he suggested that they cross the river and climb the old stone steps up the east cliff to the church and the abbey.

Just by the bridge they noticed a fishing boat rather curiously named *The Pride of the Valley*. It was dirty and uncared for, and the only man on deck was a coloured sailor in a striped football jersey with a cigarette hanging on his lip. Charles remarked that it did not look as if it had been out fishing with the others, which were now being hosed down about a hundred yards away.

THEY sat on a seat at the top of the cliff and looked down on the roofs of Whitby glowing in the sunshine, and then explored the abbey ruins. Mr. Renislau had never before talked so freely to Charles, who felt very close to his father when at last they went back to the town and found an inn where they were welcomed with a good meal.

"Let's explore some of these courtyards and alleys before we go to the station," Charles suggested when they came out. "We might find a junk shop where we could buy some curio for Mother."

There were several of these little alleys linking the quay with a narrow street which ran parallel to it higher up the hill, and the Renislaus chose one named Rosemary Court. There were only three buildings on the left-hand side, one of which was a grubby shop with a lot of rubbish behind a grimy window, and a table, with a few second-hand books standing before it.

"Let's look here, Dad," Charles began as he picked up a volume, and then was interrupted as the shop door opened. He looked up

to see a sailor in blue jersey, black-peaked cap, and big rubber boots, with a kitbag over his shoulder. The man turned to close the door, and the kitbag swung round and hit Charles a glancing blow on the head.

"Look, where you're going, boy," the man muttered rudely, and then, after a keen glance at Mr. Renislau, hurried down the alley towards the quay.

"Clumsy idiot," Charles said as he rubbed his head. "Anyone might have thought that was my fault... It's odd, but I've got an idea I've seen that chap before... Father! What's the matter?"

MR. RENISLAU was standing quite still and staring after the sailor. All the light and happiness had gone out of his face.

"What's wrong, Father? Do you know that chap? Father! Answer me. What's wrong?"

Mr. Renislau relaxed. "Sorry, Charles. What did you say?"

"I asked you if you knew that sailor."

"It isn't possible that I do, but he reminded me of somebody I particularly want to forget... Come on. We'd better go. What's the time?"

Even his voice had changed. It was no longer carefree but hard and unnatural. Charles was suddenly frightened. Something had happened during the last few seconds which seemed to have altered everything.

"Ten past three, Dad. We shall have to run to the station. Train's due in five minutes."

Mr. Renislau quickened his step and they came out of the shadows of the squalid alley to the sunshine of the quay. Charles followed his father's glance and saw the mysterious sailor, with his kitbag still on his shoulder, making his way through the holiday crowds towards the grubby *Pride of the Valley*, moored up by the bridge.

"You go to the station without me, Charles. I don't feel much like hurrying and I'd rather stay here in the sunshine. Put their luggage in the cloakroom and bring them both back here... I'll be waiting on this seat."

Charles ran back into the shadows and then, obeying some queer impulse, turned and saw his father walking quickly away from him towards the fishing boat where, presumably, the sailor had gone aboard.

FOUR minutes later, very out of breath and feeling vaguely anxious and unhappy, Charles was among the small crowd at the barrier as the train steamed into the station.

He saw Juliet first, and indeed she was difficult to miss. She was wearing a blue linen frock with a scarlet belt, and her ash-blonde hair was bare. Then Simon saw him, dropped his suitcase, and shouted a welcome.

Continued on page 10

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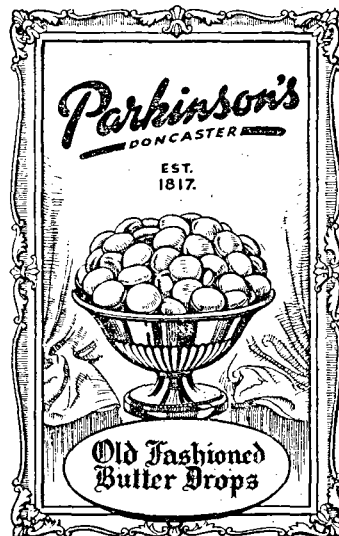
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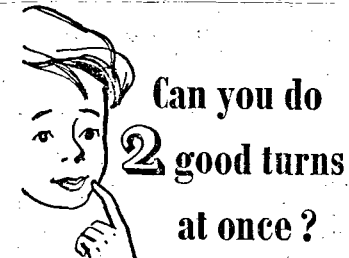
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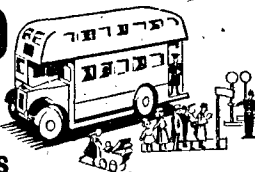
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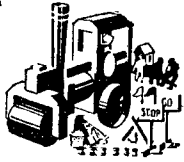


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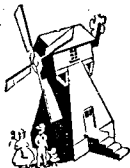
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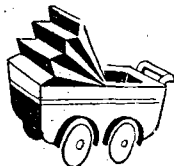
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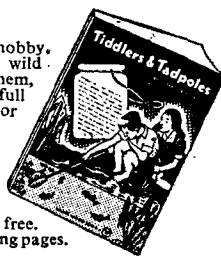


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BIRDS WELCOMED ABOARD

Birds lost in the North Atlantic are lucky if they wing their way aboard the Canadian Pacific freighter Beaverburn; for Captain Francis Poole receives them with bird seed, and brandy if necessary, to aid their recovery.

During the last six years aboard the Beaverburn, Captain Poole has saved the lives of many birds. There was a merlin hawk which he rescued and later released in the Bristol Channel. On his last voyage he rescued a little English robin, blown far out to sea.

Once a swift blew on board in mid-Atlantic, but, despite every care, it survived only three days. "Once a bird creeps into a corner and puts its head beneath its wing, then you know you have lost the fight," says Captain Poole.

Just as many land birds from

Canada as from Britain seek refuge in the Beaverburn. Captain Poole is certain that a bird's mysterious sense of direction is in some way linked with sight, for so many birds, including pigeons, get hopelessly lost in fog.

Sea birds also interest Captain Poole. At this season, he says, the strong-flying sturdy fulmar petrels, which in summer are found in mid-Atlantic, are seeking shelter along the coasts. But his favourites, the dainty little kittiwakes, which are found in summer around the coasts, wing out above the open ocean in the winter gales.

Sea bird or land bird, as soon as Captain Poole sees one, down it goes in his little black logbook, which contains the observations of perhaps the only North Atlantic seaman-ornithologist.

HOME GUARD OF LONG AGO

There is nothing new in the Home Guard—England had such a force in Queen Elizabeth's time, when a Spanish invasion was feared.

Documents recently discovered in Canterbury's archives show that citizens in those days had to equip a force without any help from the Government. Every householder was compelled to produce a weapon of some sort; poor people had to find only a few arrows, but

wealthy townsmen had to supply a pair of muskets or a suit of armour.

Like the infantry of today, the soldiers of Queen Bess's time carried an assortment of weapons: matchlock muskets, bills (halberds), pikes, swords, and snap-hances (the first flintlock gun). They also had bows and arrows, but the day of the archer was passing, and he was seldom seen "on parade" after the Armada year.

The Buckinghams at Ravenswyke

Continued from page 9

"Hullo, Charles! We've made it. Have you got a bit of string in your pocket, 'cos the handle of this awful suitcase is coming off."

Then they began a hectic search for their tickets. All the other passengers had left the platform by the time Simon produced them proudly from the hip pocket of his corduroy shorts.

A YOUNG porter who had been watching Juliet with admiration came forward to help them, and promised that the handle should be repaired by the time they collected their luggage from the cloakroom. Juliet rewarded him with a dazzling smile, and Simon, as they went out into the station yard, puffed out his cheeks and said: "Gosh, Charles. I wish you'd take her down a peg or two. I have an awful time with her. She quotes Shakespeare out loud when other people can hear, and just now, when we were in the train, the carriage was full and she began patting her hair and preening herself—"

"Shut up, Simon, you impossible little beast . . . All the same, Charles, that does remind me of something. I want you to give me an absolutely honest opinion . . . Have I grown?" She stopped suddenly and stood with her back against a tobacconist's window.

"Come on, Juliet," Charles snapped. "Father came in with me to meet you and he's waiting on the quay and is going to take us out to tea before we catch the bus home."

"I like this place," Simon said. "It's grand. It smells of fish. I'm going to like it here. Where is Mr. Renislau?"

"Not far now," Charles said. "Do you see that bridge just ahead. On the left, on the other side, is the quay where he said he would be on a seat waiting for us . . . I'm jolly glad you've both come. Mother says you'll be good for us all."

Juliet looked at him curiously. He looked older and perhaps rather anxious. She wondered whether everything was really all right at Ravenswyke. She knew the Renislau well enough to realise that they were an eccentric family.

THEY climbed the steps to the bridge, crossed the road, and then Charles led them down to the quay, which was crowded with holiday-makers. He looked anxiously at the dirty Pride of the Valley, still moored in the same position, but there was no sign of life aboard—not even the coloured sailor.

Charles's heart began to thump uncomfortably as he quickened his steps towards the court and the seat where he had left his father.

"Steady on," Simon puffed. "There's no hurry, is there?"

Juliet touched Charles's arm. "What's wrong? You look worried. Your father is all right, isn't he?"

Charles stopped beside a seat on which was sitting a woman with a sticky child sucking a toffee-apple, and turned a stricken face to her.

"He was all right this morning. Everything was marvellous until he saw the sailor. Now he's gone . . . He's disappeared . . . Do you hear me, Juliet? He's disappeared."

To be continued



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FRANCIS CURTIS LTD.(Dept. C.N.)
226 BAKER ST., LONDON, N.W.1**SPORTS SHORTS**

A NEW electric starting device which should go with a bang has been used on Australian running tracks. It fires a cracker behind each runner.

ONE of the most prolific scoring teams in junior football is the Park Street XI, of St. Albans. All under 18, they set up the amazing record last season of 250 goals for 15 against, in winning the Herts Minor League and Cup. This season they have already passed the 150 mark, every member of the side having scored—including the goalkeeper, from the penalty spot.

**They swim as one**

June Taylor (right) and her sister Gale, of St. Catherine's, Ontario, give a demonstration of synchronised swimming, which is to figure for the first time at this year's Olympic Games as a competitive sport.

THE world's table-tennis championships begin at Bombay this Friday (February 1). Entries have been received from 33 countries, including Afghanistan and Korea.

Among English representatives will be Richard Bergmann, John Leach, and the Rowe twins. Bergmann will be trying to win a world's title for the fifth time, and so equal the record of his former Hungarian team-mate, Victor Barna. World champion, Johnny Leach and the Rowe twins will be making determined efforts to retain their titles.

ONE of the finest of our athletics clubs, South London Harriers, recently elected Mr. Alick Pirie as President. He first joined the club over 30 years ago. A brilliant cross-country runner, he has seen his two sons make wonderful strides; Gordon Pirie is British six-miles champion and a bright hope for Helsinki, and his brother Peter is developing into an equally fine cross-country runner.

YOUNG ACTOR GETS HIS GREAT CHANCE

Seventeen-year-old Richard Thomas must be one of the most excited people in London; the dream of every young actor has come true for him.

He played Hamlet at the King Alfred School, Golders Green, before an audience which included Mr. Glen Byam Shaw, the Shakespearean authority and a director of the Old Vic Theatre.

So impressed was he by Richard's performance that after the show he offered him a place in the Stratford-on-Avon company. Richard hopes to stay with the company until called up for National Service. After that he means to return to the stage and make it his career.

WALES and Scotland meet this Saturday at the Cardiff Arms Park ground, home of Welsh Rugby, where the Scots have not won since 1937. Altogether Wales have won 27 games and Scotland 26, so there is some chance of the score being levelled.

EVERY Monday and Saturday evening, 20-year-old, Pamela Utting of Cheam may be found in Sutton Baths, swimming up and down on her own. Southern Counties 200 yards breast-stroke champion, she has been given the use of the pool after closing hours to train for the Olympic Games.

A COMPLETE village has been built at Helsinki to accommodate 7500 athletes, representing 60 different nations. Training facilities include a swimming pool.

MARJORIE JACKSON, the young Australian sprinter, recently did the 100 yards in 10.6 seconds, one-tenth of a second faster than her previous best, a world record. The new time will not be allowed as a record because of a slight following wind.

SHARON KOEHNKE, 16-year-old American junior table-tennis champion, plays her matches in a one-piece nylon dress of her own design.

AN Indian Air Force hockey team—complete with sticks—recently parachuted onto a Calcutta sports ground to play a match against the local champions. One man landed in a tree, but all were on the field within 15 minutes.

YORKSHIRE READER WINS BICYCLE

For his entry in the C.N. Competition No. 18, which contained the highest number of words and was the most neatly-written according to age,

Robin Earle,
45 First Avenue,
Bridlington, Yorks,
wins First Prize—a bicycle.

The ten 10-Shilling Notes for the next highest totals have been awarded to:

Delphine Chinery, Lowestoft; John Gibson, Hulme; Helen Jewell, Leeds; Charles Lane, Watlington; H. R. Matthews, London, E.11; Wendy Monkom, Reading; Virginia Robinson, Shoburyness; S. Sandercock, Bromley Common; George Saxton, Ilford; Janet Wolf, Bideford.

The winning number of words was 63. Several competitors sent in entries containing more words, but a great many could not be allowed.

ABYSSINIA RED CROSS SET, FREE!!!

The COMPLETE MINT SET of 5 Beautiful Large Pictorials, depicting Ethiopian Nurses, Infants, Hospital Scenes, etc., will be sent ABSOLUTELY FREE TO YOU! These marvellous RED CROSS stamps, in green, red, blue, brown and purple, were never officially issued and are not catalogued. They were prepared for issue in 1936, during the Italian invasion of Abyssinia; went through the Suez, down the Red Sea, and arrived at Djibuti, only three days from the capital, Addis Ababa, when it fell to the Italians. This set would have cost you 7s. 6d. if the Italians had been three days later! Nevertheless, they are of immense interest, and historically unique. You will be the envy of all your friends with these on the first page of your album. Just ask to SEE our Approvals (you are under no obligation to purchase anything!) and enclose 3d. for postage. We will also send you our FREE 8-PAGE BROCHURE AND PRICE LIST.

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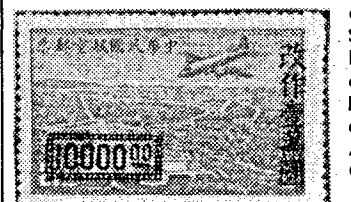
LISBURN & TOWNSEND LTD.**(C.N.), WEST KIRBY, WIRRAL**
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Yes, I have Colonial and Foreign Pictorials, Commemoratives, etc., catalogued at 50s. to be GIVEN AWAY!

Send postage for my Celebrated Approvals, a really splendid GIFT, and a list of dozens of further Gifts.

JAMES TUDGE (CN 2),
3 HILL VIEW ROAD, OXFORD**PRINCE CHARLES**

The first two stamps showing Prince Charles were issued in 1950 by New Zealand. I offer both of these fine large stamps, showing the young Prince with Princess Elizabeth, free to all applicants for Approvals enclosing postage. Mention C.N.

R. D. Harrison, Roydon, Ware**FREE! 25 CHINESE STAMPS**

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This WONDERFUL FREE PACKET of 25 different UNUSED Chinese Stamps containing not only the scarce large blue airmail but also many other beautiful stamps is ABSOLUTELY FREE. Just ask to see a selection of our FAMOUS DISCOUNT PICTORIAL APPROVALS and we will send you this Chinese Packet UNCONDITIONALLY FREE OF CHARGE.

Please enclose 2½d. stamp for postage.

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A SUPER-PACKET of 25 ALL DIFFERENT CHINESE STAMPS offered free to readers who wish to see Junior Approvals, and enclose 2½d. postage. SEND NOW.

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This stamp from Paraguay, which will increase the value and interest of your collection, will be given absolutely free to all persons requesting our discount Approvals. Write now! Postage appreciated.

P. Owen (Dept. C.N.48), "Larkhill,"
237 Hartford Road, Davenham, Northwich,
Cheshire.**BRITISH COLONIALS FREE**

Are 50 British Colonial stamps, ALL DIFFERENT, of any interest to you? If so, send 4d. to cover postage, etc., and ask to see Approvals. The above offer will then be sent to you (COMPLETELY FREE), together with an attractive selection of stamps. There is no obligation to purchase.

A. E. RUDGE
Millook, Bude, Cornwall.

THE BRAN TUB

GETTING HIS TICKET

A FRENCHMAN on his first visit to this country was queueing at the station for a ticket. He heard the woman in front of him say: "Maryhill single, please."

When his turn came, he said to the clerk: "Henri Aumont, married with five children."

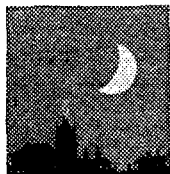
Stocking up

A FARMER decided to increase his stock, so he took £100 to the market. He found turkeys cost £5 each, hens £1 each, and chicks 1s. each. He purchased some of each, spending all his £100. Then he found he had bought exactly 100 birds. How many of each had he bought?

Answer next week

OTHER WORLDS

IN the evening Jupiter is low in the south-west and Uranus is in the south. In the morning Venus is low in the south-east and Mars and Saturn are in the south-west. The picture shows the Moon at 6 o'clock on Friday evening, February 1.



Moving

It gave me a shock
To see the rock rock.
Twas caused, I was told,
Because the roll rolled.

BEDTIME CORNER

What youth can give

A SMILE, a simple "Thank you,"
A helping hand, a grace,
A courtesy that pleases—
These ought to have a place
In all young lives. Remember,
They cost but little, yet
They make just all the difference
To those whom youth has met.

Sitting pretty



BILLY AND HIS NEW MATE

It was a gusty afternoon as Billy walked across the common to sail his yacht. Rover frisked at his heels.

Arriving at the pond, Billy studied the direction of the wind. He had to be careful, for on one side was a large clump of rushes, and if his boat went in there it would be difficult to retrieve.

However, the wind seemed to be in the right direction, and Billy set the Saucy Sally on the water. Immediately the sails filled out and the boat scudded away.

She was half-way across the pond when a gust of wind suddenly turned her at right angles—straight towards the rushes!

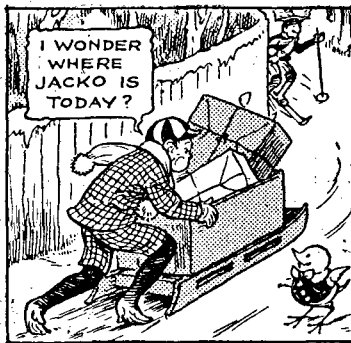
Billy watched in dismay as the boat stuck fast. How was he to get it out of the rushes? Then he had an idea.

"Fetch it, boy, fetch it!" he cried to Rover.

Like a flash Rover was in the water, swimming towards the boat. He got to the rushes, grabbed a hanging cord, and towed the little craft away. A moment later Billy was reaching out to pull his boat in.

"Good old Rover!" he said. "From now on you are the mate of the Saucy Sally, and we sail her together."

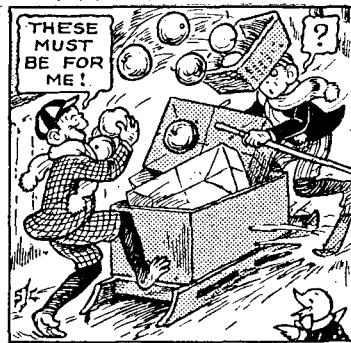
JACKO IS NOT SO SKI-LFUL AFTER ALL



Chimp had taken a sledge to carry home his mother's shopping.



Jacko had chosen skis, and wished that Chimp could see his performance.



Yet when he did get his wish, he was most upset.

RIDDLE-MY-TOWN

My first is in cat, but not in dog;
My second's in hail, but not in fog;
My third is in apple and also in pear;
My fourth is in ticket, but not in fare;
My fifth is in knot, but not in bow;
My sixth is in high, but not in low;
My seventh is in ear and also in eye;
My eighth is in collar, but not in tie;
My ninth is in watch, but not in clock;
My tenth is in stone and also in block;
My last is in oxen, but not in bull;
My whole is a Yorkshire town famous for wool.

Answer next week

Danger past

"I SAY," said the sightseer, "this cliff is dangerous." There ought to be a notice or something.
"There was," replied his guide, "but no one had an accident, so we took it down."

RODDY



"Please Miss, I want to deposit this half-crown and withdraw 2s. 6d."

One better

"My brother is learning to play the piano by ear," announced Mavis proudly to her friend Jean.

"That's nothing," retorted Jean; "my big brother fiddles with his whiskers."

CHAIN QUIZ

Solutions to the following clues are linked together, the last two letters of the first answer being the first two of the second, and so on.

1. Family of large marine mammals; the oil extracted from the flesh of some species is used in making margarine.

2. City of Saxony, Germany; centre of the German book and fur trades; scene of one of Napoleon's defeats in 1813.

3. American lizard, varying in length from a few inches to several feet.

4. A princess who appears in the story of Odysseus. Going one day to the shore to wash clothes, she was playing ball with her maids when she met the weary Odysseus, whom she escorted to her father's palace.

Answer next week

FARMER GRAY EXPLAINS

LOFTY LARCHES. In the plantation, which consisted mostly of evergreens, one tall tree was conspicuous because of its lack of leaves. The trunk was straight and slender, and the branches, which formed a pyramid, bore a number of small cones.

"Is the tree dead?" Don asked Farmer Gray.

"No; it is a larch," replied the farmer; "one of the few deciduous conifers. In the spring its pale green foliage will transform it into a thing of beauty. For most of the year it presents a drab appearance. Introduced into England in the 16th century for ornamental purposes, larches have since been grown for their valuable timber."

Tooth trouble

JOHN was so cross. An aching tooth still ached, in spite of careful filling. Said he: "I must do something quick."

This pain is nearly killing... So John let out an angry shout, And with the dentist had it out.

QUESTION

What never asks questions, but always requires answering?

1199 400P V

LAST WEEK'S ANSWERS

Riddle-my-town
Leith.

Chain quiz
Mériot, Ottawa, Ware,
Reykjavik.

Riddle in rhyme
Hollyhock.

PALE	AFAR
ALONE	0
RA	ENTER
TRACE	LAY
SET	BED
TOR	EE
ONION	S
LAID	ED
DULL	TORN

Said the Halibut to the Orange..
"It's a pity winter brings
so many colds and sniffles
chills & other tiresome things!"

Said the Orange to the Halibut..

"If only people knew
that Haliborange daily
keeps them fit the winter through"

You and your children can look forward to the winter with the help of Haliborange. This delicious blend of pure Halibut oil and orange juice is not only rich in vitamins A and D but contains vitamin C as well. It increases resistance to winter ailments and builds strong, healthy bones and teeth—provides children with that summertime zest for life. Haliborange is really delicious to take—try it yourself.

Haliborange

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IN BOTTLES 3/6—FROM CHEMISTS ONLY

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